

I Claim:

1 1. Apparatus for cleaning gutters, said apparatus comprising a rod, a rake
2 attached to one end of the rod, and a hoe attached to the other end of
3 the rod.

1 2. The invention of Claim 1 wherein the rod is telescopic.

1 3. The invention of Claim 1 wherein said apparatus for cleaning gutters
2 includes a scoop.

1 4. The invention of Claim 1 wherein said rod is a long rod for cleaning long
2 gutters and wherein said apparatus also includes a short rod for cleaning
3 short gutters and portions of long gutters.

1 5. The invention of Claim 4 wherein a rake is attached to one end of the
2 short rod and a hoe is attached to the other end of the short rod.

1 6. The invention of Claim 3 wherein the gutter is supported by spikes and
2 wherein the scoop includes a bottom wall, a rear wall and side walls
3 dimensioned to fit within the gutter and beneath the spikes.

1 7. The invention of Claim 4 wherein a rake is attached to one end of the
2 short rod and a hoe is attached to the other end of the short rod.

3 8. The invention of Claim 7 wherein the width of the rake and the width of
4 the hoe correspond to the width of the gutter with which the apparatus is
5 to be used.

1 9. A rod and a rake for cleaning a gutter of the type that is attached to a
2 roof with a plurality of spikes, said gutter having a bottom wall and side walls
3 extending upwardly from the bottom wall, the spikes being spaced along the
4 gutter and extending through the upper portions of the side walls, said rake
5 comprising a shaft extending axially from one end of the rod, a center tooth
6 and two side teeth, the center tooth extending in axial alignment from the
7 shaft and the two side teeth extending from the shaft in diverging relation to
8 the center tooth, each of the teeth terminating in a downturned end portion,
9 the downturned end portions of the side teeth being spaced from each other
10 a distance to provide the rake a width in conformity with the width of the
11 gutter, and the downturned end portions of the teeth being of a length
12 sufficient to rake pine straw and other debris along a gutter and beneath
13 spikes during manipulation of the rod and rake to clean the gutter.

1 10. The invention of Claim 9 wherein each downturned end portion
2 terminates in a lip.

1 11. A method for a workman to clean a gutter of debris, said method
2 comprising the steps of :

3 a) providing a ladder of sufficient length for the workman to stand
4 on the ladder with his waist at the gutter when the ladder is
5 positioned on the ground beneath the gutter and leaning
6 against the gutter at a desired angle;

7 b) providing a rod with a rake secured to one end of the rod, and

8 c) the workman grasping the rod and rake and positioning himself
9 on the ladder to face the gutter with the waist portion of his
10 body at the same height as the gutter and the workman then
11 manipulating the rod and rake to drag debris in the gutter on
12 one side of the ladder within reach of the workman, and the
13 workman then manipulating the rod and rake to drag debris in
14 the gutter on the other side of the ladder within reach of the
15 workman.

1 12. The invention of Claim 11 wherein the workman's manipulation of the rod
2 and rake to drag debris in the gutter on both sides of the ladder within
3 reach of the workman includes the following steps:

- 4 a) the rod is rotated to turn the teeth of the rake up to a glide
5 position before pushing the rake away from the ladder to a
6 desired position in the gutter to begin dragging in debris on one
7 side of the ladder;
- 8 b) the rod is rotated to turn the teeth of the rake down to a raking
9 position before pulling the rake toward the ladder to drag in
10 debris on said one side of the ladder;
- 11 c) the rod is rotated to turn the teeth of the rake up to a glide
12 position before pushing the rake away from the ladder to a
13 desired position in the gutter to begin dragging in debris on the
14 other side of the ladder; and
- 15 d) the rod is rotated to turn the teeth of the rake down to a raking
16 position before pulling the rake toward the ladder to drag in
17 debris on said other side of the ladder.